what a difference a century makes

100

years of the Mound

The Mound

The original "Mound" was located on the campus of the old Fairmont Normal School. It was a favorite meeting place for students and its name was given to the first yearbook. In 1938, part of the Mound was transferred to the location next to the Senior Walk where it remains today as a link between the old campus and the new.

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To our students, faculty, staff, alumni, community and friends,

2008 marks the 100th anniversary of our campus yearbook, The Mound, which has its roots deep in Fairmont State's history.

Fairmont State Normal School's first yearbook appeared in 1908, as more modern student organizations emerged under the administration of Dr. Charles J.C. Bennett. At that time, students paid dues of 30 cents a year to provide an entertainment fund. Several other student organizations celebrated 100th anniversaries in 2007. Our Student Government was founded on November 1, 1907 as the Student Body Association. Other new groups established in 1907 included a Choral Club and Band. Today, Fairmont State features more than 85 student organizations.

Campus life is an important part of the college experience. Besides making new friends and having fun, there are other advantages to getting involved. Students who participate in student organizations typically have better grades and higher graduation rates.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to the generations of students and advisors who have continued the tradition of The Mound, Student Government and other student organizations. Your efforts continue to generate valuable leadership experiences, opportunities for personal growth and fond memories. You help students SOAR.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Bradley
President
Fairmont State University

Blair Montgomery
President
Pierpont Community & Technical College

May 6, 2008

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni:

Yearbooks are funny things. Often at first they have little importance; and then years latter, we find one on the bookshelf and they bring back fond memories or remind of us of a friend or an episode that affected our lives. Yearbooks are annuals to record, highlight, and commemorate events from the past. They are journals that bring alive again the activities from our earlier years. When you look through yearbooks, they tell a story about the school, who was here, things that happened, and how the school grew and changed over the years. Most students only think about the three or four years they attended school and the yearbooks for that time; but I, on the other hand who have been here 30 plus years, look at them differently. I see the yearbooks as small history books that tell the story of the school and the people and events that make us who we are today.

On behalf of the Office of Student Affairs, I would like to congratulate and commend all the yearbook staff members over the past 100 years who have provided us with this history of Fairmont State University. The history tells where we started and how we have grown and changed. Congratulations and thank you for all the time, effort, and sacrifice that it has taken to put this journal together. I commend the current staff as well as the previous staff for the dedication I know it has taken to log this history. Please continue the legacy of the annual for all of us and the generat come.

Sincerely,

Michael Belmear

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni:

It is with great pride that we celebrate 100 years of the Mound.
As an unofficial curator of the school's yearbook it is fun and enlightening to take copies of the old annual from my office shelf from time to time and review them, seeing history unfold through the lives of our students and staff. Nothing says nostalgia like a yearbook.

It is also a special privilege to be the director of student publications at this centennial and help direct the students' work on this issue.

This yearbook represents a departure of sorts from the type of yearbooks we've done in the past. We thought this year was a special time and needed a special edition that was filled with color and style.

To be sure, a lot has changed since the first Mound was issued in 1908. We've grown as an institution and we've progressed in our publications. The Mound has received more than 30 national awards from the Society for Collegiate Journalists since 1998, making us one of the most decorated small college yearbooks in the country.

We take pride in the Mound and our institution. Enjoy this year's edition. We think this is the beginning of another 100 years of nostalgia.

Sincerely,

Kevin Z. Smith
Director of Student Publications
Assistant Professor of Journalism

what a difference a century makes...

100 Years of the Mound

1900s

In 1908, the first edition of The Mound was published by the senior class of Fairmont State Normal School. At the time, the school was located on Fairmont Avenue and tuition was free; C.J.G Bennett was president and the editorial board to The Mound boldly deemed FSNS "The Greatest Teacher Training School in Northern West Virginia."

Throughout the decade students portrayed their traditions and pride through the amazing showcasing of the dozens and dozens of student organizations that nearly every student, upperclassmen or not, participated in. And they were not the typical organizations of today. They were literary societies, religious societies, and academic societies. The students of FSNS were also very prideful in their athletic teams, whether they were successful or not.

1910s

Changes were starting to take shape at Fairmont State Normal School throughout this time; in 1911 the school saw a change in President as O.I. Woodley took over for Dr. Bennett and again in 1916 when Dr. Joseph Rosier took over for him. In 1914, the editorial board wrote of a new site being purchased for the school's campus on Locust Avenue and how exciting it was for the future of Fairmont State and in 1917 the school was built on the impressive hilltop campus that exists today, Hardway Hall as it is now called.

Furthermore, as World War I was taking place in Europe, things began to become political on Fairmont State's campus. It was easy to see a significant separation between the sexes and their roles within the school. In 1916, women's basketball was basically eliminated and the academic school began offering cooking classes for girls and manual training classes for guys. That same year a The Women's Suffrage Club was organized and The Anti-Suffragette Club was its main adversary.

The United States entered the First World War in April of 1917 and as men joined the Armed Forces to fight for their country, student involvement in organizations was obviously down.

The *Mound's* Editorial Board embraced the changes that were well upon them, publishing the following poem titled *The Old & The New*:

The old seemed far dearer than the new,
And the thought of leaving brought a feeling of regret.
But as the chrysalis leaves its narrow cell
And spreads its wings as a full-grown butterfly,
So we left the old and turned our steps to the new,
And our pride far surpasses our regret.

1920s

With the beginning of the 1920s came the end of a tumultuous time in the Fairmont Normal School's history. World War I, which had begun in 1914, officially ended in 1919, though fighting ended in 1918. With the war, however, came changes to the Normal School. The graduating class of 1919 was the first class in the entire history of the school to not have any male members, and though the classes that followed had men in them, the enrollment numbers had dropped due to the patriotic sacrifices of male upperclassmen.

Fairmont State: 1900s-1940s

1908 — First publication of the Mound at "Fairmont State Normal School"

1914 — Site purchased for school on Locust Avenue

1917 — Hardway Hall built on Locust Avenue property

1919 — First All-Female graduating class in school's history

With the decline and discontinuation of the previous literary societies, new organizations, such as the Barnes Individual Talent Club and a new sorority, Tau Tau Tau, sprung up, allowing students more opportunities to get involved with the school, while academic honoraries and the Greek organizations were still in great demand.

President Rosier reigned over the school during the entire decade, providing a watchful eye over the students, while a Dean of Girls and a Dean of Boys assisted, and the number of sports teams increased.

1930s

The 1930s started calmly, with Rosier still presiding over the school. Students became more involved by the day, with over 25 organizations, including a new French Club, giving students the chance to have fun, learn new things, or possibly even make a difference.

The enrollment grew from the 75 in 1872 to over 700 by 1938, with the 1937 yearbook comparing the campus to a castle, noting the pride and strength of the students and faculty, a trait left over from the previous decade's war.

But 1937 also brought to the students the opportunity to get a bachelor's degree in art, for the purpose of teaching it in schools, while four exemplary senior students per year were awarded golden keys as a way to commend them for their personality, dedication to scholarship, participation, and attitudes towards college activities.

However, with a stroke of irony that alluded to the turn of the next decade, the Masquers put on a production of "Men Must Fight," which, as the title suggests, is about men put into battle.

1940s

December 7, 1941: a date that would live on in infamy.Though the start of World War II was lingering over the student body, the school, which became Fairmont State College in 1943, tried to keep a "normal" atmosphere.

Known at that point as the "friendly college," the school showed patriotism in a 1943 yearbook that "when our boys left for parts unknown they took the heart of 'The Hill' with them!" With the change of title, students were then permitted to pursue speech as a minor, and take Spanish as a class, both previously not allowed.

Students continued to show their academic prowess when named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, while the campus prepared for a new student union to be built, and the band one first prize in the Grand Feature Parade at the 21st Apple Blossom Festival.

However, thoughts of war and death were not far from their minds, after long-term president Dr. Rosier passed away in 1947, and Dr. George H. Hand took over as president. A plaque featured in the 1948 yearbook also showed this, on which the names of 33 Fairmont State students killed in battle were engraved.

1937 — Bachelor's Degree in Art Education added to degree offerings

1938 — Enrollment grew to over 700 students

1940s — New Student Union constructed on campus

1943 — School's name changed to Fairmont State College

1950s

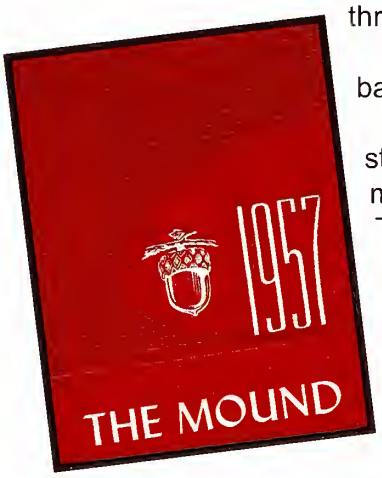
Things didn't start so well for the Falcon faithful in this decade. The 1952 Mound spent a large portion of its initial pages dedicated to two distinct men – former president Joseph Rosier and coach/athletic director Jasper Colebank, both of whom died. Today, the athletic field and former gymnasium carry their respective names.

The era of the bobbie socks and pool skirts was here and in 1953 just about every student wearing them was at Rosier Field to see the Falcons, under Harold "Deacon" Duvall take his team to an undefeated six-game season. Never before undefeated on the Hill, they won the West Virginia Conference championship in fine style.

In '54 a new library went up and president John Pence was in his third year as the top administrator for the college. There were 10 social fraternities and sororities on campus, not to mention the numerous academic groups, including Fu Se Fa, Future Secretaries of Fairmont. The big play on campus that year was "Bertha the Beautiful Typewriter Girl."

Still a growing college, Fairmont sported a small teaching staff. For instance, in 1955 there were five education professors and the business school had only four. The English department was made up of seven instructors which was more than doubled the math department.

This was the year the sophomore class sponsored the first Dad's Day celebration in October complete with a parade through downtown Fairmont.



Things didn't go so well in sports and the football team managed only two wins and the basketball team didn't fare much better.

By 1956 the basketball team was coming on and won 19 games with seven losses. But the story was their scoring prowess. They put 100 points on the board three times and managed more than 95 points in 11 other games. Led by Jack McIntyre, Bob Gouzd, Juno Charleston, Tom Janicki and Harry Hall, they were a conference force under coach Paul "Pi" Davis.

Bigger than the basketball team, the band sported more than 30 members and were directed by a chorus of majorettes numbering nine. Lenore Ridgely was named the prettiest girl on campus and Tom Burford was the most popular.

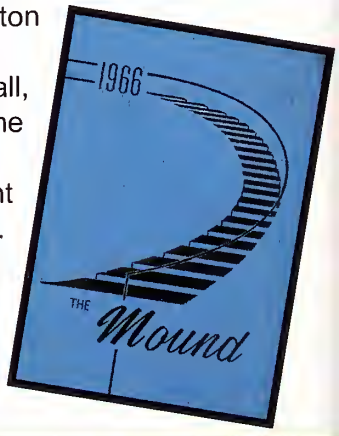
By the late '50s freshmen were still wearing beanies, girls had white bobbie socks and professors wore thin neckties. The 1957 basketball team won 20 games and the football team was 7-1 and held opponents to about a touchdown a game.

In 1958 the Mound celebrated its golden anniversary. The Masquers put on five plays including "Beautiful People" and "Goodbye to the Crown." The great snow of that year which left feet of snow on campus was prominently chronicled in that important yearbook.

Dad's Day got bigger with each passing year and the Falcons were once again conference champs in football.

1960s

The 1960s was an era of immense change for the campus of FSU. Though the president, Eston K. Feaster, remained the same throughout the decade, construction went on around campus.



In 1964, renovations to Hardway Hall began, while North Hall, now known as Pritchard Hall, began construction. Meanwhile, plans were beginning for the Fine Arts building that would come to be known as "Wallman Hall." Rosier Field also had renovations that year.

Students also went through life changing events, such as with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and later his brother Robert Kennedy, for whom the country mourned. Meanwhile the theater department presented such classics as "South Pacific," "The Crucible," "Dracula," and the ever popular "The Sound of Music."

Fairmont State: 1950s-1980s

1953 Falcon's football team finishes first undefeated season

1954 New library constructed on campus

1964 Construction begins on North Hall (now Prichard Hall)

1968 Basketball team earns 2nd place in NAIA

In the late sixties, North Hall and Wallman Hall, including the technology wing, came to completion. Meanwhile, the campus was proud to have the first Fulbright Scholar in Fairmont State history, Nancy Painter.

In the realm of sports, the football team celebrated their best record since 1959, one of 8-1. Basketball also celebrated big wins, and, in 1968, became WVIAC Divisional Champs. That same year, the football team went to the NAIA Football National Championship, where they won, with an 11-0 record, over 500 other schools. Five Falcons were also named to the WVIAC All-Conference team.

Even as the decade ended, students found that things were changing, as the plans for Hunt Haught Science Hall began, new clubs were formed, and a new, and life-changing, war began.

1970s

The theme of change, begun on campus during the 1960s, continued throughout the 1970s, beginning with the Vietnam War. On Oct. 15, 1969, 125 students and faculty members celebrated Vietnam Moratorium Day by marching from campus to the Fairmont city courthouse. The day was instituted by the Vietnam Moratorium Committee, whose headquarters were in Washington, D.C.

Ground was broken for Hunt Haught Hall in the fall semester of the 69-70 school year, on November 21, 1969. The Hall officially opened in 1972, and a new, $1 million wing was added to the Ruth Ann Musick Library was added the same year.

Bowling, a previously unrecognized sport, placed 2nd in the NAIA in 1973, while the basketball team placed 4th place in the NAIA in 1971.

The theater department put on plays such as "The Wingless Victory," "The Crucible," "Jimmy Shine" and "Beggar on Horseback" in 1976, while events such as Song Fest brought the sororities and fraternities together. At this point and time, the school was overseen by President Wendell G. Hardway.

During the 76-77 school year, five members of the women's field hockey team were appointed to the Pittsburgh Field Hockey Association team, with one member making first team, two making second team, and two receiving honorable mentions. The team had one win, against WVU, during which male members were allowed to participate as well.

Classes were halted towards the end of January in 1978, as a blizzard was predicted, and state employees were ordered to return home. For two days after that, classes were halted due to a water problem in Fairmont. Broken water lines caused a shortage of water, and many area business cut down on their hours, as water flow was a critical problem. A fire truck was even brought in to help with the situation.

Many different events were hosted during the 1978-79 school year, though many activities were cancelled that March due to a miners' strike and the electrical cutbacks ensued, but events resumed during April and May. The end of the decade also brought the completion of the Feaster Center. Through the tumultuous 70s, President Wendell Hardway, who began his appointment in 1973, took care of the college, bringing it in to the new decade.

1980s

The 1980s began innocently enough and the big story on campus was about athletics. Under legendary coach Joe Retton the Falcons posted a 26-5 mark in basketball and won their seventh WVIAC title. It marked the 17th straight year the team finished with 20 wins. After winning the conference title they lost by two points, 84-82 in the first round of the NAIA tournament.

On the mat, the wrestlers went undefeated in dual matches and posted two All-Americans in Bruce Hinkle and Phil Gifford.

Soon Retton would step down as head basketball coach ending one of the winning careers in all of college sports.

1972 — Official opening of Hunt Haught Hall and expansion of the library

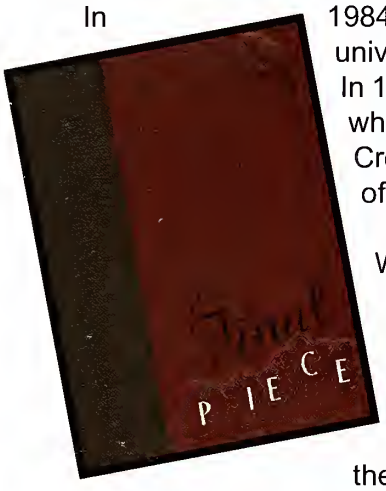
1978 — Blizzard shuts down classes for three days

1984 — Fairmont becomes the largest college in WV with 4,800 students enrolled

1988 — Prichard Hall Dormitory becomes co-ed

He would be replaced with FSC standout Dave Cooper.

All seemed to be going well, but it didn't take long for the recession to take hold. In 1982 state appropriations were slashed and that meant budget cuts on campus. Student Government gave back to the university $50,000 and cancelled a number of scheduled events. President Wendell Hardway was still the leader of the college and though the Clarksburg center has some courses discontinued, the Mound happily reported that academics didn't suffer under the budget crisis.



In 1984, enrollment reached 4,800 students and made it the largest college in West Virginia behind universities – West Virginia University and Marshall University.

In 1985, the year of the amazing state floods, students joined forces to help West Virginia families who were displaced when raging waters claimed so many homes. Students helped the Red Cross, assisted with the United Way, held bowl-a-thons and walked to raise money for the needs of the families.

For enjoyment, rocker George Thorogood rocked the Feaster Center and jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis brought smooth sounds to the audience.

Despite a near break-even season, the men's basketball team won the conference title again and by 1986 athletics were pushing players and teams into the national spotlight. Diver Bill Cushing, swimmer Eileen Luigard and runningback Ed Coleman lead their respective teams into the NAIA top 20.

By 1988 the campus was growing with new construction and renovations, according to the Mound. Longtime president Wendell Hardway stepped down as president after 16 years and FSC's basketball great Joe Retton was inducted into the West Virginia State Sports Hall of Fame. His 19 years of coaching earned him 478 wins or 25 wins a season.

Prichard Hall dormitory went co-ed and according to the Mound is was popular to have and drive a Corvette to campus. The swim team produced 10 All-Americans and was ranked one to the top teams in the nation. Bill Cushing was again an All-American and the top swimmer of his era. The men's basketball team won 20 games again and the decade of techno music and big hair was ending.

1990s

The 90s, most often noted for "boy bands" and the "grunge" look, also proved to be a decade of new clubs, new presidents, and massive snow storms for students. While it was a decade of new beginnings, it was also a decade of remembrance, as there was a campus wide celebration of Fairmont State's birthday, 130 years strong.

The college provided potential teachers with a new, up-to-date building that education they were happy to move in to. The building was dedicated on April 29, 1993. The Aerospace Education Center was also dedicated that year, on Nov.12.

The 1993-1994 school year brought the so-called "Blizzard of '94," merely three days after students returned to school for the spring semester. Students had the entire week off, as temperatures remained below zero, but students took advantage of this time by sledding down various hills on campus, and building an igloo in front of the one room schoolhouse. During this year, which was the first year that students could use their meal plans in the Nickel, the Turley Center began renovations, clubs such as "Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Students and Friends" became official on campus and the "Outdoor Adventure Club" formed.

In 1997, Fairmont State College was proud to have the first ever female president to preside over a four year college or university in West Virginia, Dr. Janet Dudley-Eshbach. Dudley-Eshbach was the successor to Dr. Robert Dillman, and stated that a goal was to "bring the college up to date with modern technology and computing," The 1990s were an era of technological improvement, as 1996 brought the first on campus internet access, providing students with the

Fairmont State: 1990s-2000s

1993 — Dedication of new Education Building and Aerospace Center

1995 — Cheerleaders, basketball team, volleyball team win division titles

1996 — First year for on campus internet access

2003 — WebCT is introduced

opportunity to expand their knowledge of the world.

Sports teams throughout the decade made the campus proud, as school swimming records were broken in the 1650 free, 500 free, and 400 intermediate medley, and a student received an honorable mention in the USA Today 9th annual All-USA College Academic Team. The cheerleaders captured the National Title in 1995, and won its 7th WVIAC state cheer championship in 1998, while the basketball team, with a 27-4 record, went to the NCAA Division II East Regional Championship. FSC The volleyball team was also WVIAC champs in 1999.

With the end of the 90s, and "Y2K" approaching, and so much change already completed, students wondered, how much would change with the beginning of the new millennium...something that they soon found the answer to.

2000s

Y2K was something that was on everyone's minds as the moments clicked down from 1999 in to the year 2000. The rumors were everywhere- that the world would end, that all computers and technology would crash, and that nothing would ever be the same. While 00's, as with any decade did bring change and a major event in U.S. history, thankfully, the Y2K rumors proved to be ill-founded.

In 2000, STAND was founded to "increase environmental awareness throughout campus," which they tried to do by sponsoring "Environmental Awareness Day," as well as a recycling program. They also cleaned up rivers and streams, while funding their organizations by bake sales. 2000 was also the year the football team attained their best season record since 1981, 8-2, and the cheerleaders won 3rd place in the National Championships, soon to take that up a notch.

In January of 2001, current president, Daniel Bradley, took office, becoming the 12th president of Fairmont State. The cheerleaders also won their first national championship since 1995.

It was in September of 2001, however, that the United States changed. It was that day, come to be known as "9/11," when terrorists attacked the World Trade Centers in New York City, and the Pentagon in D.C. The Student Activity Fair was scheduled to be held that day, but most people just sat around, listening to the radio, hoping for news about what had happened. Students banded together, holding both a memorial then, and then another on the one year anniversary, which included planting a tree to commemorate the attack.

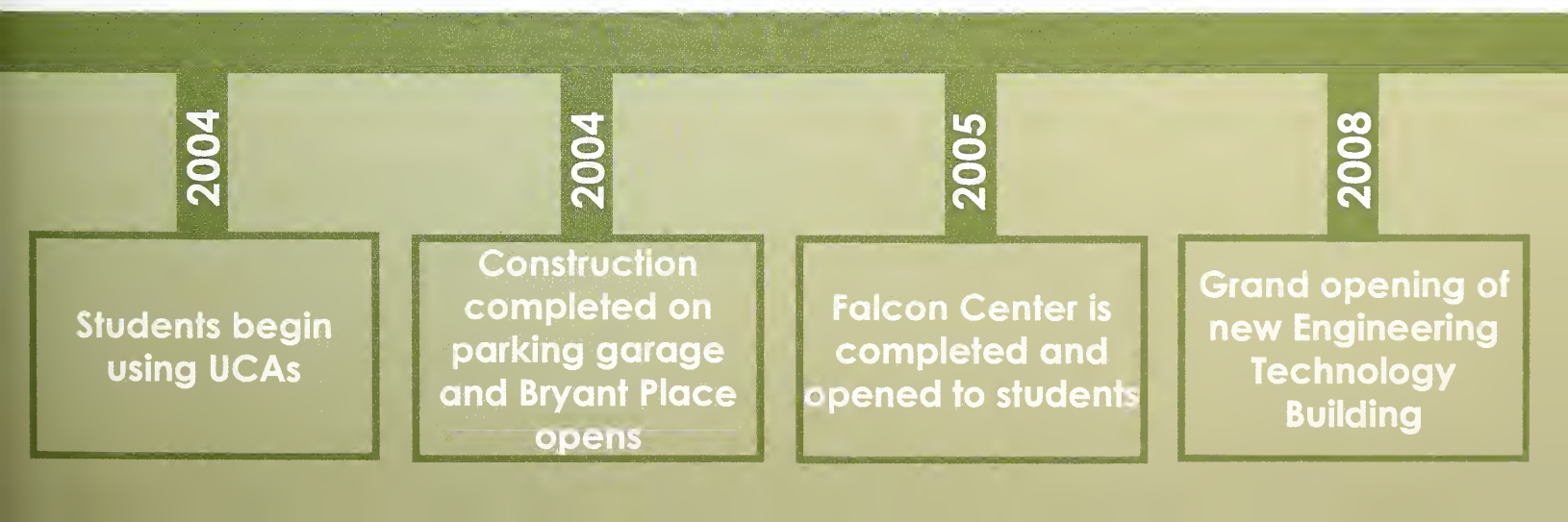
Technological advances continued, as WebCT became a part of class life in 2003, and UCA accounts were begun in 2004. In 2004, the parking garage was completed, despite a major snowstorm in 2003. The Falcon Center and the Bryant Place construction also began, with the Falcon Center opening in 2005.

The presidential elections of 2004 brought candidates to Fairmont State, to try drum up interest in the younger voters. Alex Kerry, and Cate Edwards, daughters of democratic presidential hopefuls and running mates John Kerry and John Edwards spoke about their fathers' campaigns. Republican hopefuls George W. Bush and Dick Cheney, as well as Jenna and Barbara Bush, were also visitors, while Edwards and his wife also came to visit. There was also a rally with Michael Moore, the director and creator of the critically acclaimed movie, "Fahrenheit 9/11."

In 2005, the cheerleaders won their 5th straight cheerleading UCA National Championship, however, this excitement was short lived, as it also proved to be the end of a winning streak, as the cheerleaders found out later.

That brings us to the present. In the summer of 2007, the campus undertook intense landscape redesign, much of which is still in progress. However, the completion of the new Engineering and Technical building, opened just in time for the spring semester of 2008, marked the end of major construction on campus…at least for now.

After 141 years, Fairmont State is still changing. It's gone from "Fairmont Normal School" to "Fairmont State College," and now proudly wears its' title of "Fairmont State University." While several traditions remain, such as painting the bell, one can only guess where the school will go next.


2004
Students begin using UCAs
2004
Construction completed on parking garage and Bryant Place opens
2005
Falcon Center is completed and opened to students
2008
Grand opening of new Engineering Technology Building

student life

Homecoming

by Jessica Stanley

Homecoming 2007 gave students an opportunity to get lucky and "Hit the Jackpot at FSU." The Las Vegas style theme gave students such events such as the lip-sync contest, a pep rally the traditional parade through the heart of downtown Fairmont and a concert in addition to the usual Homecoming dance and football game.

As per tradition the week was centered on a community service project with all proceeds from certain events going to the Betty Puskar Breast Care Center. Nearly every organization was involved in raising donations and court candidates were required to participate.

The dance itself took place in the Colebank Hall gym on Friday, Oct. 12 with music and refreshments offered to more than 500 in attendance.

Homecoming '07 culminated, as far as students were concerned, with a football game against the University of Charleston. During half-time, each contestant couple came onto the field and selected envelopes from a large bag. Upon opening the envelopes, the man who had the king card and the woman with queen of hearts card were crowned as the homecoming queen and king.

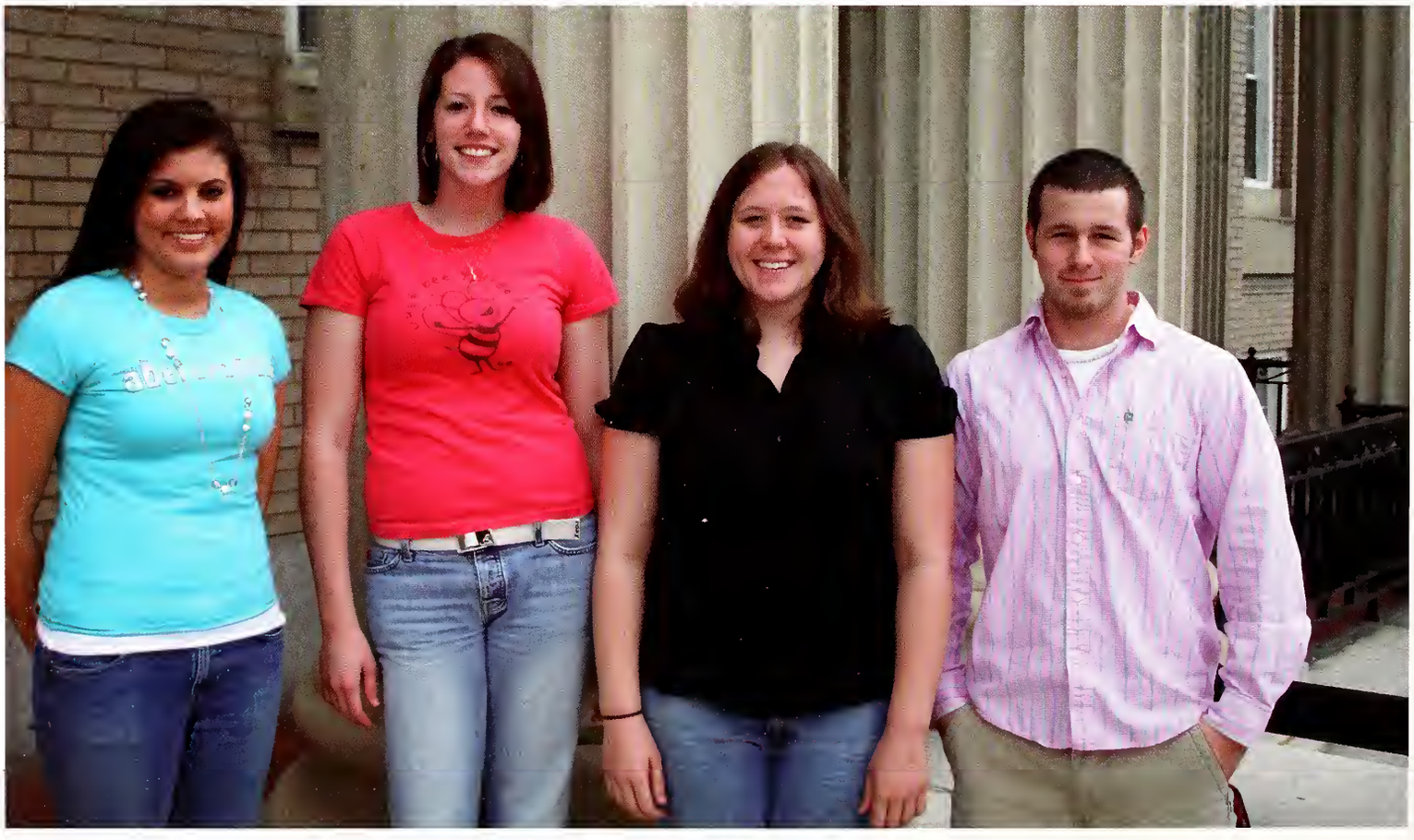
Daniel Jones, of Tau Kappa Epsilon, and Krista McDonald of the Black Student Union were named homecoming king & queen. This was the third consecutive year that the winners were determined by random selection.

The Falcons lost the football game to Charleston, 35-9.

Fairmont State Fighting Falcons

THE COLUMNS
of Fairmont State
Fairmont, West Virginia
Separation anxiety?
Bill divorces FSU and Pierpont CATC; tuition up at least 5 percent
Presidents' letter to the student body

UNLEADED
GASOLINE ONLY



Campus and World Events

The April 16 shooting deaths of 29 students at Virginia Tech and three faculty members rocking the nation Fairmont State officials did two important things – first they memorialized the fallen and then they implemented several new security measures to make sure such an event doesn't happen here.

A text messaging system, which allowed students to input their cell phone number into a database, gives students text messages when there is a threat to their safety, whether it be a situation like that of the unfortunate Virginia Tech events or even far less drastic.

The rules regarding monitor duties in the dorms were also more rigidly enforced, so as to reduce the number of people in the dorm who don't belong there.

Students showed an interest in helping others in other ways. Offered several times per semester, blood drives sponsored in part by FSU and Pierpont Community and Technical College helped the world in more ways than one. At drives sponsored by Central Blood Bank, on the other hand, donations may end up at Fairmont General Hospital after processing, helping local people with injuries, as Central Blood Bank is the only contributor to Fairmont General's blood bank.

Constitution Day was celebrated this year, through events such as a constitution contest through which the student with the most answers can win an IPOD and other events, such as a showing of the movie National Treasure, and also allowing students to sign a copy of the constitution.

In recognition of Veterans' Day, a special event was hosted, in which Dr. Patrick Albano, associate professor of Academic Studies for Pierpoint Community and Technical College, was interviewed about his experiences in Vietnam, as a part of the American Folklife Center's Veterans' History project, which attempts to document and preserve individuals' personal experiences from war.

In addition to this, some students individually interviewed veterans for the project, while Fairmont State encourages the community to get involved, both veterans and potential interviewers.

Campus Activities

by Beth Reynolds

Every spring in April, all four sororities and fraternities come together for a little competitive fun. This year Greek Week contained many games and activities from Monday through Thursday, and it is safe to say that there was something for everyone. Greeks at Fairmont State look forward to this week every year, and this year was no disappointment.

The events of Greek Week each had an impressive turn out, both in those who participated and cheered on their organization. All of the competitions were open to anyone who wanted to watch. Most of the activities were held either in the Falcon Center our outside. Everyone who was involved seemed to enjoy the entire week.

"Greek Week was awesome and fun for the whole Greek family. It was one of the best Greek Weeks to date," Jeremy Shackelford, a member of Tau Beta Iota, said.

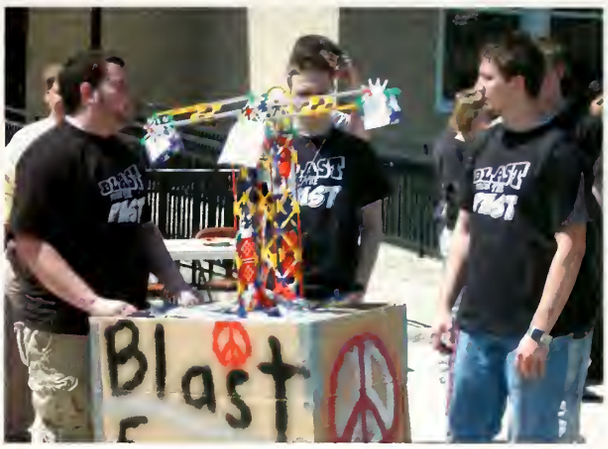
The events of Greek Week varied to appeal to everyone. Greeks competed in several sporting events, a parade, pie eating contest, and even a dance off and lip sync contest. This year the events had a "Blast from the Past" theme, and participants dressed up every day in either 20s, 50s, 60s, or 80s attire. Many of the members of Greek life have a favorite event that they look forward to every year.

"Greek Week was great this year. The competition was fierce but all in good fun. My favorite event was the lip sync because everyone really put on a good show, and it was funny to see how talented and goofy people can be," Kristen DeSantis, a member of Delta Zeta, said.

Every organization always brings talent and creativity to the lip sync.

The International Fair which was held at the end of April gave students and faculty a chance to share in and learn more about the variety of countries represented on campus. There were booths representing China, Nepal, Japan, Mexico as well as European counties of England, Italy and France. Many of the students dressed in cultural costume and provided visitors with a taste of their food and fares during the day long event in Colebank Hall.

It's Earth Day
Plants are Sensitive too!
Free House Plant!


Blast

EARTH DAY

SAME
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15

Falcon Center Activities by Jessica Stanley

You hear yelling and the pounding of basketballs as you make your way through the Falcon Center. You stop briefly, glancing down, and see a large group of students in uniforms running around, playing basketball.

You just noticed the intramural activities taking place in the gyms. Basketball isn't the only intramural sport that is offered at Fairmont State but it's one of the most competitive and involves the most students.

The Intramural Sport program offers students the opportunity to participate in over 27 different activities, both mental and physical.

The goal of the department is to "foster sportsmanship, fair play and respect for competition through a variety of organized sports and recreational activities."

This goal is achieved through the activities offered, in this case everything from basketball, golf and backgammon to water volleyball and Texas Hold-em style poker, with formats for all students, faculty, and staff.

Tournaments are offered towards the ends of each semester, though only participants who have participated in at least 50 percent of the activity days offered are eligible.

Tina Mascuro, director of intramurals says that college life isn't all about sitting in classrooms and studying and offering an outlet for energy and play is healthy and productive toward creating an enriching experiences on campus.

Maybe competitive sports doesn't interest you. Then you can enjoy learning and keeping fit with health classes.

Among the classes offered are yoga, "butts & guts," circuit training, pilates, spinning, water aerobics, and even Zumba, a dance themed aerobic class.

Though students and faculty are encouraged to join, the community can also sign up for the classes, which are scheduled throughout the school week.

The fitness center also contains various weight lifting equipment, treadmills, and even stair steppers, to better enable students and faculty of all walks of life to lead a healthier life.

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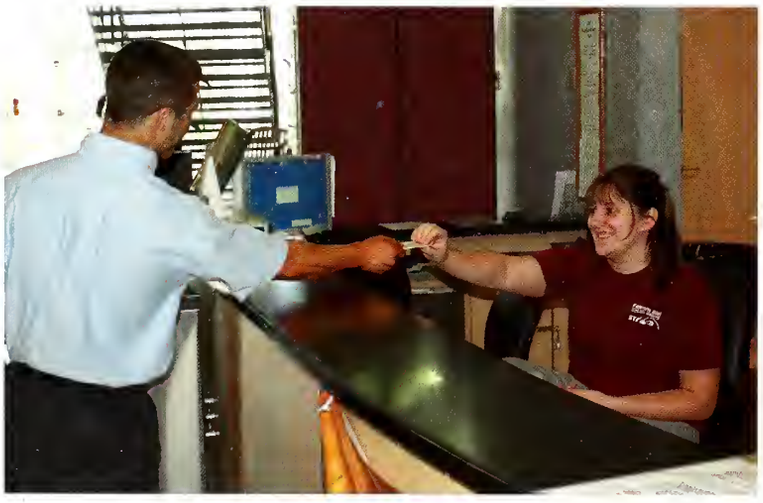


In Our Spare Time

Spare time is a precious commodity for students no matter what their major or how many hours a student is carrying. Most students here find that spare time can be taken up with something as unique as studying. Honestly.

Of course studying comes after spending time on facebook, sending text messages to a friend just down the hall or uploading a new photo on myspace.

If a student takes 15 hours of courses they would then spend 15 hours in class each week. A good student will spend three hours per week dedicated to a single class, or an additional 45 hours. That's 60 hours a week dedicated to classes.

Assuming they sleep six hours a night, that knocks off 72 hours of their week. If they work, that will take 20 hours from their time, leaving them with roughly 16 hours a week or a little more than two hours a day for spare time.

Since college is a social function as much as an academic function, many of the extra time is consumed with being social, such as joining a fraternity or sorority. It can also be used to mingle with people at sporting events, concerts or even hanging out on Main Street in the Falcon Center between classes chatting with friends and catching up on the latest news. And it can mean weekend parties and bar hopping.

Whatever the students do in their spare time, it's certain that, in the end, academics wins out for most and the notion of graduating is important enough to trim back on the fun and excitement long enough to learn and pass courses.

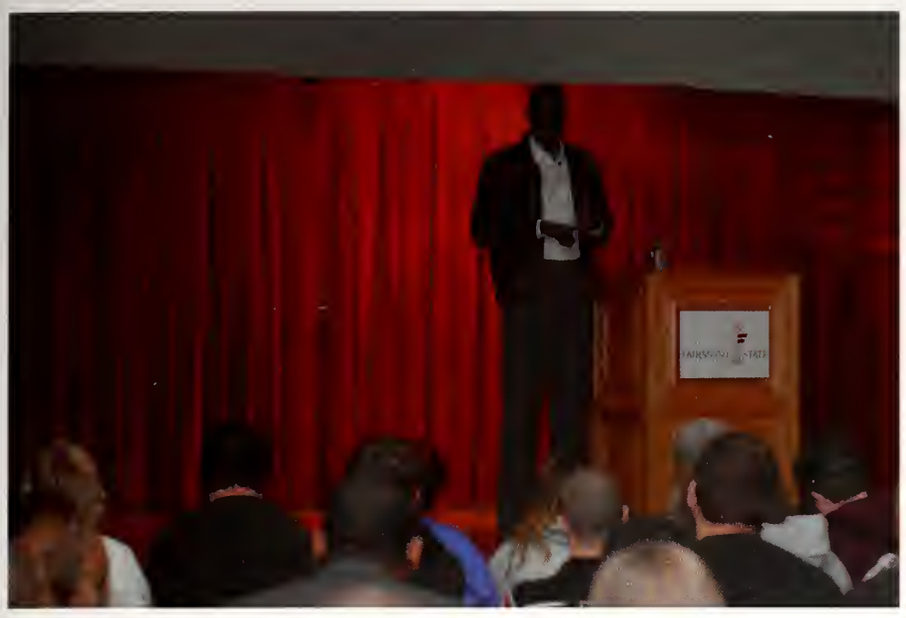
Celebration of Ideas

by Jessica Stanley

The Celebration of Ideas Lecture Series once again brought some of the nation's most intriguing speakers to Fairmont State. This year's lineup included a renowned journalist, an embattled politician, a successful Fairmont State alumni and a famous book author.

The speakers included: outspoken and revered educator Marva Collins, who grew up in a segregated Alabama but went on to garner many prestigious education awards in her fight for equality; former House Majority WhipTom DeLay, who left Congress under a cloud of campaign misdeeds; UPS executive Marvin Stewart who attended Fairmont State; Washington Post columnist and political pundit Eugene Robinson who gave his opinions on the political landscape as the election year approached, and Sudanese author and one of the Lost Boys, John Bul Dao. Bul Dao endured a civil war and spent many nights sleeping on the ground, fighting hunger, disease and political persecution. He never lost sight of his faith, which was the one thing that kept him pressing on.

Additionally other speakers were brought to campus via department connections. Many of these speakers were used to speak to topics directly related to their discipline.



FAIRMONT
STATE

academics

Arts and Sciences

by Romelia Hodges

The College of Liberal Arts in Arts and Sciences at Fairmont State University provides superior undergraduate education in three diverse departments, behavioral science, language and literature, or social science. If looking to further your educational experience graduate degrees are available in criminal justice and human services.

Dr. Deanna Shields is the new dean of the college.

"The department is embarking on several projects and many changes in the near future," Shields said, "We always have something exciting going on."

The department completed an international fair that was well-attended and offered students many new experiences. In addition, an academic awards banquet is planned for students excelling in their fields.

The department bolsters an enrollment of 800 students. Students are required to complete 128 of credit hours to obtain a bachelor degree.

The faculty members in the college are educated in the finest universities in the United States and abroad.

Behavioral studies contain three fields of study in geography, psychology, and sociology. Students may obtain a bachelor of science or an associate in geography.

"Many undergraduates go on to graduate school at WVU in the fields of clinical studies, counseling and social work," assistant professor of psychology Dr. Tadashi Kato said, "They go on to enjoy successful careers working with people."

Language and literature contains fields of study in English, English education, folklore studies, French, and Spanish. Students may obtain a bachelor of arts degree with or without a teaching specialization. Language and literature associate degrees in business and technical writing; English, folklore studies, journalism and journalism/ technical writing are also available.

"Relationships with the professors are great, they don't make you feel awkward going to them when you need extra guidance." Third-year English major John Bowman, said. "Personally, I love the department."

Social science contains the fields of criminal justice, history, national security and intelligence, and political science. Students can obtain a bachelor of science or arts degree.

The criminal justice department offers a paid internship with the U.S Marshals. According to Shields this is a very competitive internship, the only one of its kind offered to students in the liberal arts department. After completing the internship, students are offered the benefit of a full time job with the U.S Marshals.

Science & Technology

The College of Science and Technology has a mission to promote effective student learning in science, math and technology and to prepare top-quality graduates for their future endeavors, including graduate study, employment or other personal goals.

To do that the faculty and staff have produced excellent academic programs and dynamic learning experiences for their students.

Students enrolled in this school can explore the world of the natural sciences, mathematics, computer science, science and math education and the wide variety of engineering technology disciplines in which they can earn their degrees.

The professional opportunities awaiting individuals who earn degrees in this college are expanding rapidly and a student's future is limited only by their interests and willingness to apply their talents

Because college isn't just about the grades and is a whole experience, the College of Science and Technology recognizes this and in an effort to prepare top-quality graduates it gives them many opportunities to network, strengthen your leadership skills, and develop practical skills for their future. All of the time doing this while having a little fun too.

As part of its commitment to returning to the community, the College of Science and Technology hosts or co-hosts many outreach events that allow faculty and students to interface with high school and younger students though science fairs, quiz bowls and other projects.

Fine Arts

by Kelly Blake

The School of Fine Arts is an academic department that prepares students to make themselves employable by learning skills needed to create a promising future in today's job market.

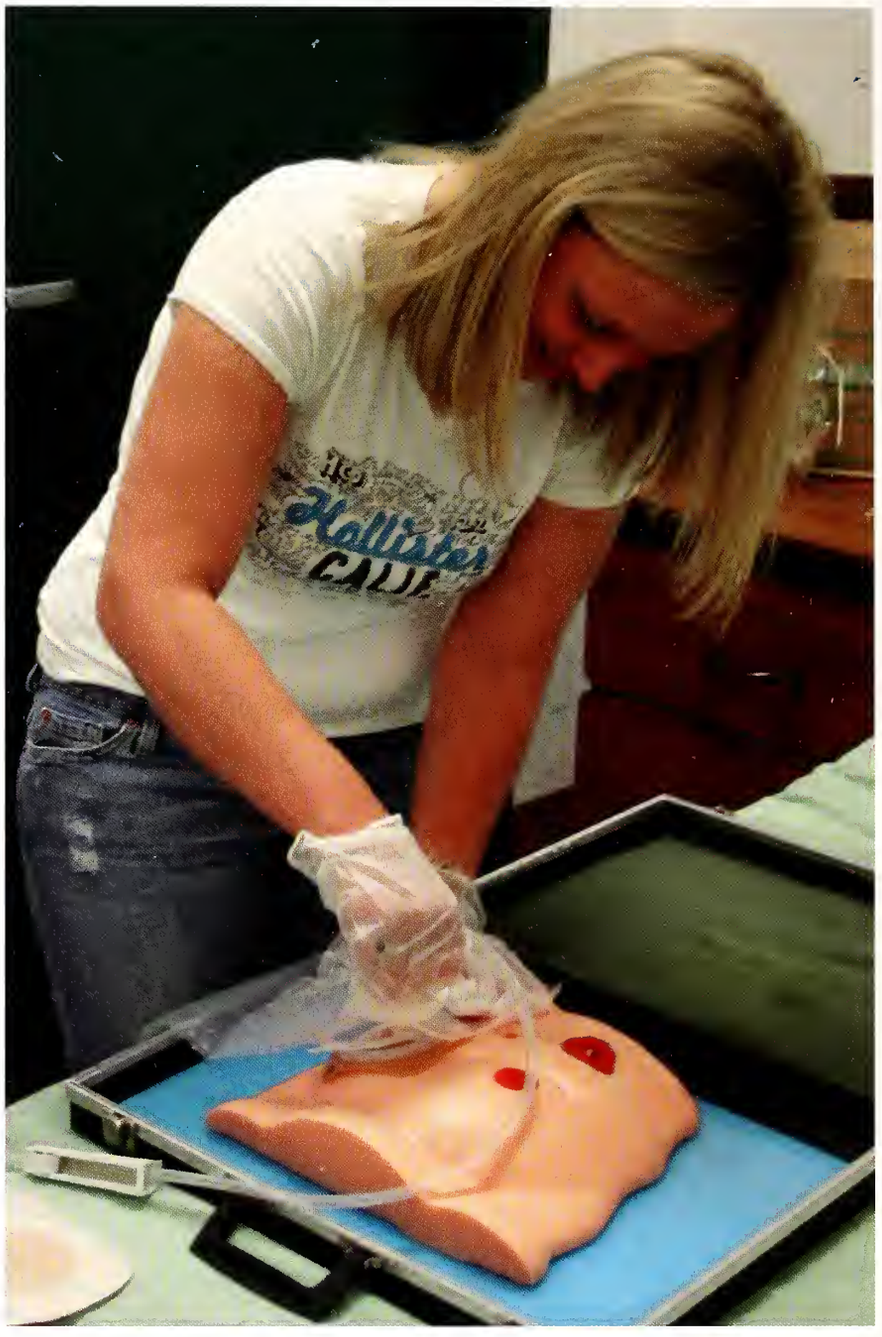
"My goal is to make students understand that even though they may have a degree in Fine Arts, they can still get by in the real world," Dr. Peter Lach, dean of the department, said.

Students learn skills that employers appreciate. Usually Fine Arts students have a higher self-confidence, better communication skills, an exuberant personality, and the ability to meet time-crunching deadlines which employers look for in an employee.

"What you major in is not necessarily what you need in a job," Lach said. "Your major describes your qualities."

The School of Fine Arts is for students who desire an education or wish to participate in co-curricular activities in art, music, speech and theatre. Students have more opportunities to be involved in the various activities because of the size of the department, which receives the largest endowment of any academic department on campus. The administrative area includes 225 declared majors and this number does not include liberal studies students, students taking electives or elementary education students.

Students can earn a degree in art education, graphics/fine arts, music, oral communication, speech communication, studio art and theatre. Within the past few years, the theatre and speech departments have grown in numbers and have met the goals set for each academic department. Even greater for the Fine Arts department, another degree opportunity may be added to the list. A proposal for a Theatre Education degree is out for approval. If it passes, Fairmont State University will be the second state school to offer this degree. It will be valid in West Virginia and most other states, according to Dr. Peter Lach.



Nursing and Allied Health

by Jessica Stanley

With a rich history of successful graduates dating back to 1964, the School of Nursing and Allied Health Administration prides itself on having a 100 percent employment rate amongst those graduated students who choose to become employed, while licensure examination rates were an average of 90 percent amongst first time candidates for the past ten years.

The nursing program is one that allows for growth within the workplace, allowing people to continue their education and earn higher degrees, all while working in the hospital, although, with any other program, it also lets less experienced people in as well.

As the FSU website states, the Nursing program employs a “career ladder” approach to education. This allows students to complete the associate degree in Nursing and while liscensed as a registered nurse, if desired, can progress through the Bachelor of Science degree. The courses for this degree are offered in the evening, allowing prospective students to work either day or not shifts.

The Allied Health Administration degree is open to those who already hold an associate degree in a health care program. So what is it? It’s designed to help health care professionals garner the knowledge they need to become successful health care managers and assistant administrators.

Building on competencies gained in their original certification courses, the nursing programs allow students to graduate in less time than the usual amount of time it takes to earn a degree. If pursued full-time, the programs can be completed in as little as two years.

Business

The mission of the FSU School of Business is to offer programs designed to develop student core competencies in accounting, economics, finance, information systems, management, marketing, and quantitative methods.

In 2005, the school was accredited by both the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) and the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE). The school's vision is to build upon its reputation of high quality to become the leading professional business school in the region.

Students enrolled in any of the business program options are required to develop critical thinking skills and to express themselves clearly in both oral and written communication. These skills are the foundation of a successful career.

There is a saying that "knowledge breeds confidence and confidence breeds success and a belief in one's self."

The School of Business faculty fully embraces this concept of success and strives to foster it in all our graduates.

Education

by Rachel Bright

At Fairmont State University, each program strives to achieve excellence in its field of study and improve each year. One such department is the School of Education where this division has been advancing and implementing many new programs.

Not only is this department one of three largest in the state of West Virginia, but it is also known as the best. Many students really enjoy the program and find it beneficial.

"The introduction to education class allows you to see a different atmosphere and problems that you will face when teaching," freshman education student Nebraska Beverage, said. "The teachers are really reliable and they want you to do nothing but your best."

This department offers a total of 26 primary and pre-secondary degrees ranging from the largest - elementary education - to physical education, social studies, and English.

There are 500 students total that are active in the program, including undergraduates doing clinical work.

In fact, the curriculum has improved vastly since Dr. Van O. Dempsey, the dean of the department, has been in charge. He and his team of advisors have been striving to make the curriculum an outstanding one.

"We have started to make the clinical strong, and tightening up the sequence of courses to make transitions from each class easier," Dempsey said. "Many changes are also being made in the elementary program and we are developing learning outcomes for each program."

Like most campuses, you will find curious students who are still "finding" out what they should do for the rest of their lives. Professor Warren Baker provides an insightful explanation as to why a student should take a stab at teaching.

"You have to do it boldly and for the love of teaching others," Baker said. "The payment that is received is more than nickels or dimes—the rewards are the knowledge that the students will gain"

To earn a teaching degree, a student must attend FSU for four years. This department focuses primarily on students really grasping an affection and knack for teaching, which in the end will hopefully result in producing some of West Virginia's finest teachers.

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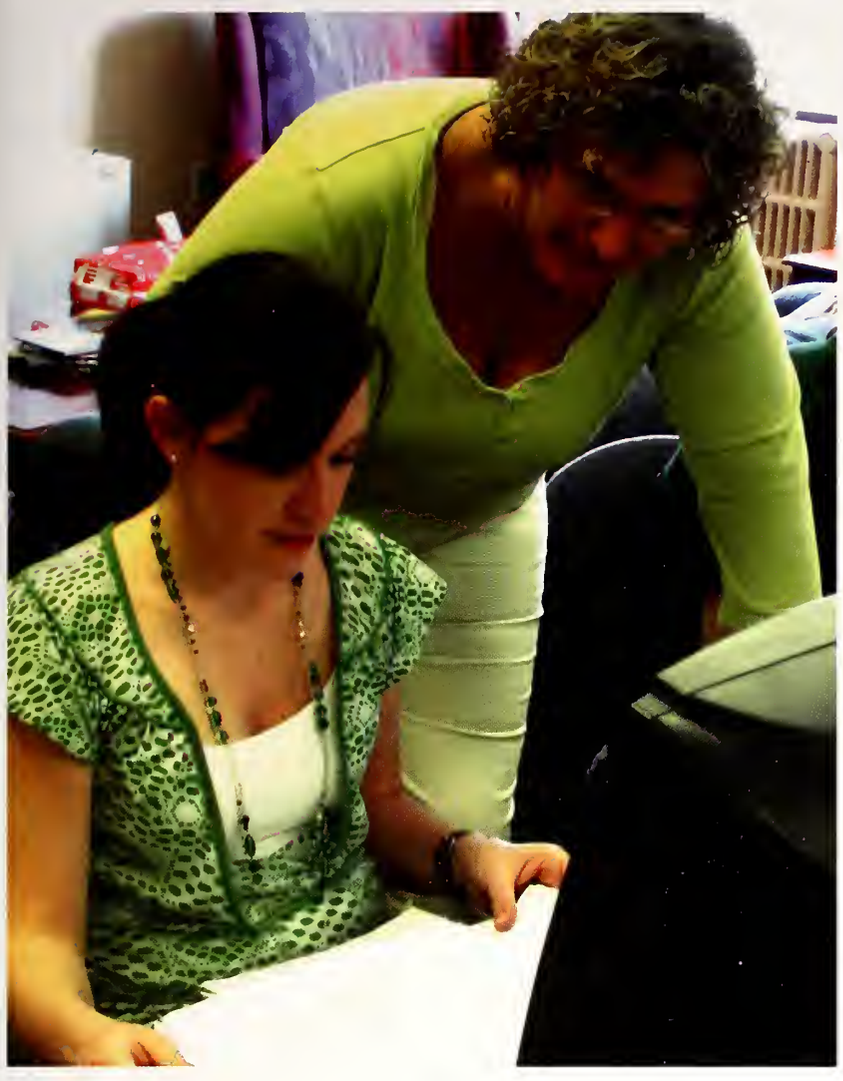


Academic Studies

by Wendell Johnson

The School of Academic Studies has made many improvements to bring a wide variety of experiences and academic credentials to its students. Over the past school year, 1,204 students were enrolled in the program. Of the 1,204 students, 642 of them showed the need for developmental math, which is a little more than half of the incoming students.

"Seventy percent of students who enter the academic studies program at Pierpont Community & Technical College are required to take classes in developmental science, math, and english," Jean Bolyard, dean of Academic Studies, said. Many students are enrolled in developmental classes due to low SAT or ACT scores. The Academic Studies program helps enhance skills in those general areas.

"When students receive their degree, they eventually transfer to a four-year program." For instance, West Virginia University or Fairmont State," math coordinator Linda King said.

Some of the degrees offered though the program are Board of Governors A.A.S., liberal studies, and sign language interpreting. The department is comprised of faculty from several departments such as history, interdisciplinary studies, speech, and several more. This is done so that the department represents the diverse interests of students. Some students are referred to the School of Academic Studies by their jobs to improve various skills. For example, the liberal Studies degree develops critical reading, writing, and thinking skills required for the student's occupation.

"I feel I have learned a lot in the Academic Studies program, more than I learned in high school. The faculty here help students improve," student Jerry Harris said. Another student, Tiffany Jones, felt she needed the developmental math course to "… prepare for the upper-level math required by her program."

The atmosphere of the program offers students a comfortable and relaxing space to study and meet with their instructors. Academic Studies also offers tutorial services for all college students in the community college, as well as the university.

Students, parents, community members, and other interested parties are urged to stop and pay a visit to learn more about the program and to meet the staff. They are located in 201 Jaynes Hall.

Health Careers

The Pierpont Community and Technical College offers a wide array of educational options for a future within the medical community. The programs offered within the School of Health Careers are certificate programs or associate degrees which can allow students to begin a career after graduation or can provide them with a stepping stone toward a higher degree of education.

In health information technician students learn how to play a critical role in maintaining, collecting and analyzing the data that doctors, nurses and other healthcare providers rely on to deliver quality healthcare. They are experts in managing patient health information and medical records, administering computer information systems and coding the diagnosis and procedures for healthcare services provided to patients.

The laboratory assistant students, upon graduating, will work under the supervision of analysts, scientists, technologists or technicians in the physical, chemical, biological and medical sciences.

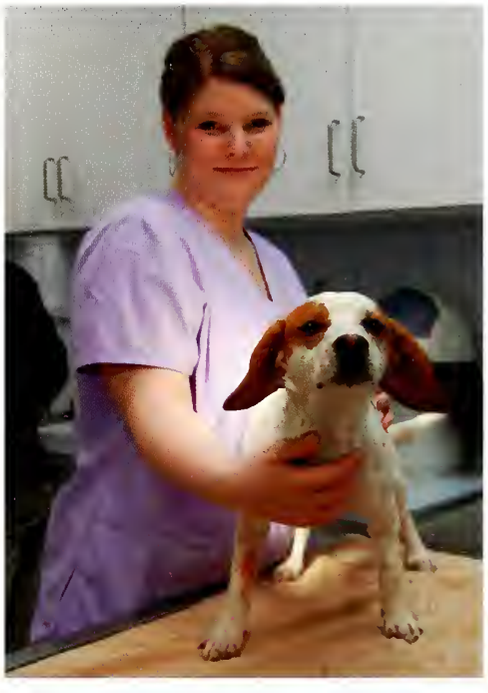
The medical laboratory technician (MLT) students perform a variety of laboratory tests in blood banking, chemistry, hematology, immunology, microbiology and urinalysis.

The physical therapist assistant program is an accredited associate degree program centered at the Gaston Caperton Center in Clarksburg. This program is a full-time day program that can be completed in two academic years plus one required summer session. Students learn physical therapy theory in the classroom, practice techniques in the laboratory, and refine their skills in real heath care settings.

Pierpont Community and Technical College's Radiologic Technology Program is a hospital-based program of study. The student's core classes consist of onsite training at WVU Hospitals in Morgantown, or UHC in Clarksburg.

The respiratory therapist students specialize in the assessment, treatment, and education of patients with respiratory or cardiac problems. In this profession, the type of patient cared for ranges from premature infants needing life support to the elderly patient trying to remain independent at home.

The veterinary technician students learn to work under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian in assisting with animal health care, in a wide variety of employment settings. The veterinary technician is a valuable asset to the veterinary medical team.



Human Services

by Lewis Summers

Fairmont State University's School of Human Services program is a growing field of study among students. The School of Human Services offers a diverse selection of programs, including criminal justice, homeland security, and culinary arts. Human services is especially proud of its newest program which specializes in events management covering courses in wedding planning and local events like state fairs and parades.

The field of study in the School of Human Services has been on a steady growth, more and more students are showing interest in programs like homeland security, food service management, and culinary arts Assistant Provost, Rich McCormick said. The degrees offered in this field give students a variety of career options which include certifications, associates and bachelors degrees. Human Services program is an interdisciplinary study that is closely linked to other field of studies and programs making it easier to acquire several degrees.

There are many new and exciting changes occurring within the disciplines of Human Services. According to Chef Brian Floyd, certified executive chef at Fairmont State, "a new and upcoming aspect of culinary sciences is agribusiness." This field focuses on the relationships and connections between the farmer and the chef who must work in compliance.

According to Floyd the culinary arts or food program is working towards operating a new bistro in the downtown Fairmont area in the future. This bistro provides students the opportunity to develop and acquire skills necessary to their success in the field, which include management skills and allows the students to cultivate their culinary talents.

Business, Aviation and Technology

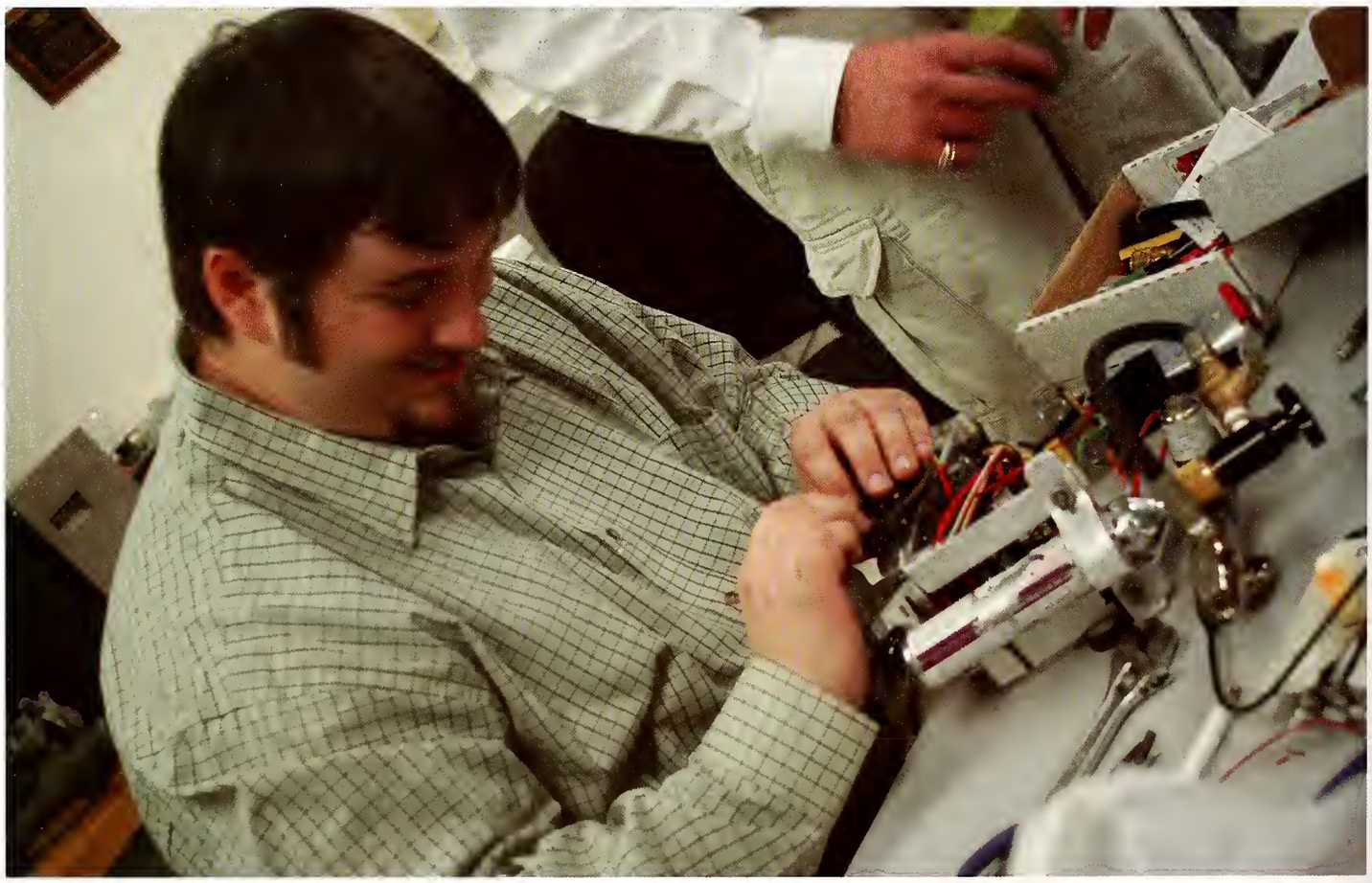
The School of Business, Aviation and Technology in Pierpont Community and Technical College offers one of the most diverse and most sought after programs in the two-year institution.

Administrative Support and Business Technology has been preparing individuals with critical thinking and decision making abilities in a business environment for years.

Information Systems provides a solid foundation in computer and network design, implementation and troubleshooting.

The aviation programs, including two and four-year degree programs specializing in aviation maintenance, aviation electronics, professional flight, and administration and management, are housed at the Fairmont State National Aerospace Education Center located at the Harrison Marion Regional Airport. All maintenance, electronics and flight degree options lead to FAA or FCC certification.

The technology programs include a cutting edge drafting/design/CAD associate and certificate utilizing the latest computer aided drafting software. The graphics program is ready to prepare students for an exciting career in electronic publishing, commercial design and internet publishing



Graduate Studies

by Beth Reynolds

Fairmont State University's Graduate Studies program began as a partnership with Marshall University and has been growing into a unique program of its own ever since. The faculty involved in the program is constantly working to make adjustments to improve the experience for students looking to earn a Master's degree. Many programs are currently being offered. Fairmont State has a Masters of Education program with several different choices of concentration, including special education, leadership studies, professional studies, online learning, and reading. Master of Arts in teaching, Master of Science in criminal justice, Master of business administration, and Master of Science in nursing are also offered.

Currently in development is a Master of Sciences in human services. According to Dr. Phillip Mason, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, this new program is just one step away from being fully accredited. Courses are being offered currently, but the entire program is expected to be fully operational within the next month. Another degree that is beginning to be discussed to add to the curriculum is a Masters in Engineering Technology Management. Beginning this year in the Education department, a five-year program is also under development.

The faculty working with Graduate Studies wants to keep focused on Fairmont Sates strongest fields and work to perfect those programs. They want to focus on their areas of expertise and keep with what is needed at the school.

Many courses and some entire programs are being offered online now at FSU. When asked the benefits of online learning, Dr. Phillip Berryhill, professor of Eduction, said, "Online learning reaches people who otherwise may not be able to attend." Many students who desire a Master's degree already have full-time jobs, and the need the flexible hours of online learning to be able to take courses from their homes.

Online learning along with improvements in existing programs and development of new programs are assisting in helping Fairmont State's Graduate Studies become more respected and well-known every year.

Honors Association

by Kelly Blake

The Honors Program at Fairmont State allows students who excel to have a vast educational as well as cultural experience while attending classes at Fairmont State University.

Honors provide an experience for students who find that an A in a certain subject is not satisfying enough. Gifted individuals can benefit from many features of the program that can deepen and expand their intellectual growth.

Dr. Marian Hollinger who teaches honors art appreciation advises students to "ask as many questions that occur to you." She also says that honors students generally have a broader familiarity with culture so it is often easier to have a more knowledgeable experience in class.

"There is often more discussion and more writing in honors classes," Dr. Hollinger said.

Students who are enrolled in the program benefit from many different aspects. Priority class registration is important when it comes time to register for the upcoming semester. Smaller classes, select faculty to teach those classes, established living in the honors wing of Bryant Place, study trips and an honors computer lab are all included in which students are able to profit from.

Trips that help expand students' growth include going to museums and other curricular related locations. These sites include Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Boston and even London.

Currently there are about 120 students enrolled in the program and newcomers are not unlikely. Each new semester brings about 45-50 honors students and each class that is offered is usually full.

Students profit from being with other students who are on the same intellectual level as their peers.

"Working with like-minded students who are seriously engaged with their academic study" is what Dr. Baker, director of the honors program believes is most important.

Intellectual independence, enlarged perspective, and an increased skill in critical thinking, writing and verbal communication are what honors students should take advantage of while studying at Fairmont State University. Students who are enrolled in the program can be confident and walk away knowing they have increased skills and a better intellectual experience that only comes from taking honors classes.

Community Education

by Rachel Bright

Fairmont State University, like many institutions, aspires to make its campus both academically innovative and community oriented. One of their goals is to bring together the Fairmont community and the university. To achieve this, they have created a program called Community of Education.

The community of education program, also referred to as "non-degree programs," offers a whole new side to learning. This program provides educational opportunities for people throughout the service region (the 13 neighbor county areas of Fairmont) who want to learn the non-traditional way. Even though this program is fairly new, it has already been successful in making some beneficial changes during its two years of existence.

"We started this program because we realized that, as a university, we have a certain place within our community," Ron Weist, director of community of education, said. "It is our chance to provide for area residences that wouldn't ordinarily have had a chance to learn, and to help create quality of life programs."

Instructors are professors from the university and the community college, as well as, local business people. This program offers many new and creative classes, ranging from cooking classes to ball room dancing, glass making, digital photography, massage, and even children and family classes. The best part about these classes is that they are not for credit and an individual does not have to be a student enrolled at FSU to attend.

"This program is for people in the community who are interested in updating their skills or pursuing an interest," Ann Lester, classified staff of community of education, said. "There are a lot of programs out there that are for people who want to get back into a learning environment."

Those who are concerned about an age limit have no need to worry. These courses are available for any age group whether young or old. They were designed to fit the Fairmont community and do just that.

"When you can generate an interest in learning it is of great value to the student, and the community," Lester said. "This can foster an interest in people who want to include learning as a life-long process—as well as keeping it in the community, because there is a need to keep the average person engaged."

The representatives for this somewhat new program are hoping to acquire more people who are interested in expanding their horizons.

"I would recommend this program to anyone, because it will benefit them both personally and mentally," a student representative for the community of education said.

For additional information about the Community of Education, email Ron Weist at: Ron.Weist@fairmontstate.edu or go to the programs main website: http://www.fairmontstate.edu/communityeducation/default.asp.

Gear Up

by Rachel Bradshaw

In 1999 Fairmont State was awarded a $21 million federal GEAR UP partnership grant to serve 47 schools in nine WV counties for six years. In 2005, the partnership was continued with an additional $31 million, new six-year grant, and an expanded area which now includes 56 schools in 14 counties.

Gear Up is a six–year federally-funded grant designed to encourage all middle and high school students to set career and higher education goals. The program was designed to help students learn how to prepare, enter, and succeed in college, or other higher education training. The likelihood of many children attending and being successful in college is small. Many students face impossible obstacles, including low expectations, insufficient scholarly preparation and a lack of information about education options and opportunities.

Gear Up, which stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, began in 1998 to encourage more of America's youth to stay in school, study hard, have higher expectations, and take the required courses to prepare for college.

The program also provides parents the tools and information they need to help their children plan for the future of their education. They provide teachers with the skills and tools needed to raise student achievement and academic opportunities. Gear Up is designed to better prepare middle and high school students for college through academic training programs and scholarships for students, qualified department activities for educators, and college access information for students and parents.

The Fairmont State University Gear Up Partnership serves more than 6,500 students and families in Barbour, Braxton, Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Lewis Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker and Upshur counties.

The Gear Up program at Fairmont State University will continue to help educate students and plan for their futures. The support of their parents and teachers will provide the tools to make this possible.

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LIBRARY

Library

by Wendell Johnson

Throughout the years, the Fairmont State University library has seen major reconstruction several times. Its first home was Hardway Hall, and a new building began construction in 1951. The most recent remodel occurred in 2006. With the new construction, the school can now enjoy a new computer lab, a coffee bar, new study rooms, and several other notable changes. Faculty, staff, and students seemed to be pleased with the results.

"I think of the new library as the place to be on campus. When I came to Fairmont State, the library wasn't one of my first stops. Now, I can't stay away," sophomore Darius Green said. In the era of the "millennial student," colleges and universities must stay up to date with new facilities and technology. Fairmont State students have access to over 50,000 e-books, 150 databases, and thousands of books in the new library.

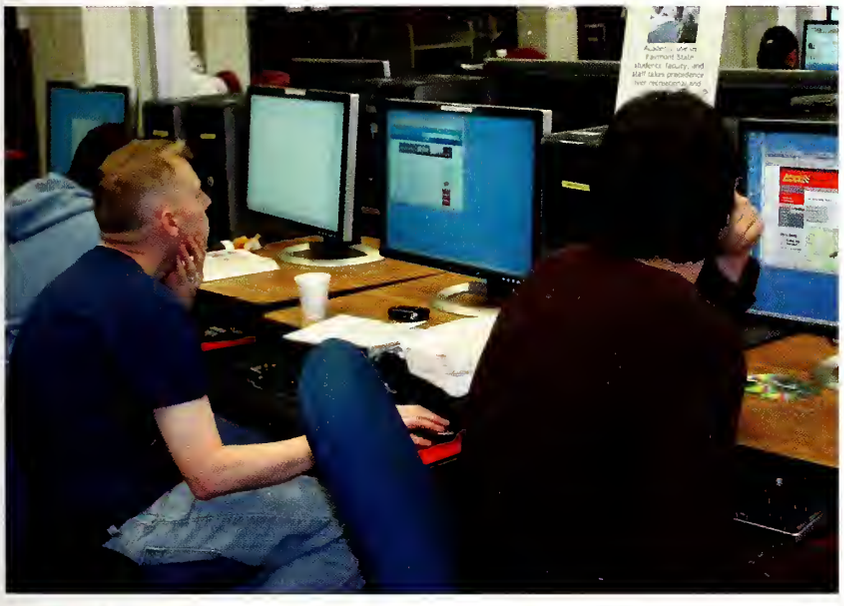
On college campuses across the nation, the library is where information is accessed, studied, and researched. Librarians and reference clerks are there for everyone's benefit.

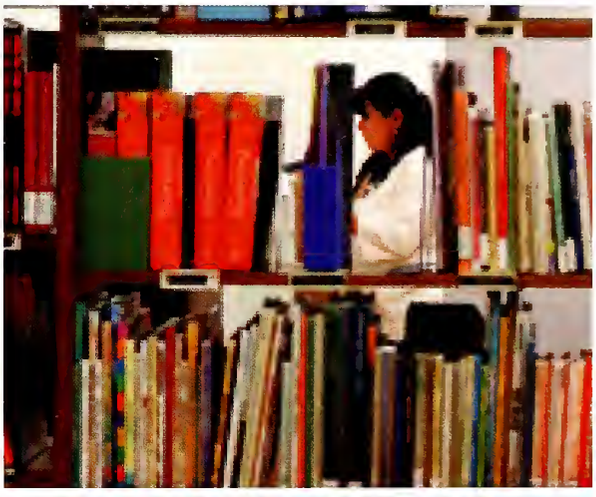
"Most students come by the reference desk to locate books and access educational databases," Debbie Renick said.

As the student mentioned earlier, the library is, in fact, the place to be. It is the home of the infamous "Starbucks" where students to gather to converse, drink coffee, and relax. The old idea of the library being the land of boredom has erased.

"Who would have thought that on a Saturday evening, I can find my roommate in the library studying," senior Willie McGee said.

The atmosphere of the library is very comforting and relaxing. The third floor offers a more isolated study area for those looking for extra quiet space. Also, it is the home of another computer lab. The second floor also has a computer lab, as well as lounge area. The bottom floor houses Starbucks, a few multi-media classrooms, a circulation desk, and a few lounge areas as well as more computers. More students should find their way to the library to check out all of its latest upgrades. It will definitely change your opinion of what a library should look like. Just ask Darius Green!





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GOLF

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Springtime Success

by Adam Talkington

In golf the men's team turned in another magnificent season, finishing third in the NCAA East Regional against Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

The Falcons shot 332 on the final day and finished 11 strokes behind the Crimson Hawks. West Liberty slipped in between FSU and IUP to take second place.

Fairmont State placed three members on the All-WVIAC first team. Will Gautreau, Justin Caroli and Zack Rudy each earned first team recognition. Caroli earned the honor for the second time in his career. The trio led Fairmont State to the conference title in the fall.

Fairmont State's men's golf team finished third at the WVIAC Northern at the Speidel Course in Wheeling to cap league play

In softball, Fairmont State's Alyssa Childers and Kristy Rausch were each named first team ESPN The Magazine All-District 2 by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). The honor recognizes their accomplishments both on the field and in the classroom.

Childers, a first team All-WVIAC selection, posted a 19-9 record as a starting pitcher for the Falcons this year. She maintained a 1.49 ERA and struck out 154 batters on the year. She pitched 24 complete games, including 10 shutouts and one no-hitter. Rausch, a junior from Mason, Ohio, was also a first team All-WVIAC selection. She led the team with a .373 batting average, 12 home runs and 17 doubles. She drove in 41 runs and slugged .732. She maintains a perfect 4.0 GPA in mathematics.

The Lady Falcons finished the year with a 30-23 mark and a 17-11 league record.

Winning Seasons

by Adam Talkington

Under the guidance of first-year head coach Mike Lopez, the Fighting Falcons took a step forward in rebuilding the program as they completed the first winning season since the early part of the decade. Lopez, a Clarksburg native and former FSU linebacker, led the Falcons to a 6-5 record which included a four-game winning streak to close out the season.

"As a team we found a groove and won our final four games for a winning season," Offensive coordinator Ryan Dumont said. "We posted the top defense in the league, and offensively we started making more big plays to compliment the defense. It was a good season overall and we're all looking forward to next season."

The Falcons sported the league's top defensive player in linebacker Lance Black. The Marietta, Ohio native led the league with 67 solo tackles and an astounding 28 tackles for loss. He was the first FSU player since Henry Newby in 1993 to earn WVC Defensive Player of the year honors.

Youth was served on the offense, as freshman running back Doug Brazill rushed for 1,137 yards on 248 carries to pace the much improved FSU attack.

To top off the successful season, defensive end Jacob Owens, a 6-5, 270-pound Franklin native was invited to the New York Jets mini-camp the first week of May.

On the hardcourts, the men's basketball team enjoyed a successful season which included a pair of blow-out wins over rival Salem International. However, their season came to an end to the hands of West Virginia State in a heartbreaking, 97-90, double-overtime thriller. Junior, Thad McFadden averaged 21.4 points per game and grabbed a spot on the Daktroniks Division II All-East Regional second team. The 6-2, junior guard poured in a game high 35 points in the final game, and helped lead the Falcons to a 19-10 overall record.

Fairmont kick-started its successful season with a six-game winning streak, including a 59-point home opening victory over Ohio State-Newark. Fourth year head coach Tim Murphy and assistant coach Brett Vincent enjoyed their most successful season of their tenures, guiding the Falcons to a nine game turn-around from a season ago.

"We had very good team chemistry,' Vincent said. 'We had leaders working hard out there - that's what you need on this lever. The entire team worked hard on the court and in the classroom. The future definitely looks bright."

League Champions

by Adam Talkington

A pair of local seniors, along with McFadden helped the Fighting Falcons prevail through the tough WVIAC conference. Shinnston's Adam Southern averaged 13.5 points per game, as well as a team high 6.2 rebounds per contest. Former Grafton standout Cody Loughry handled the point guard position and average 11.3 points and nearly two assist per game.

The women's basketball team finished the season with an impressive 25-7 record, and added another banner to the rafters of Joe Retton Arena by winning the WVIAC Championship. Danielle Cornish scored 19 points and grabbed 14 rebounds to lead the Falcons to a 63-49 victory over West Virginia Wesleyan in the championship game.

With that win FSU claimed the sixth spot in the NCAA East Regional, but lost in the first round to Anderson, 62-50. The loss marked the end of the season for the Falcons', however, for head coach Steve McDonald it marked the fourth time in seven season that he led is team to 20 wins by seasons end. The Lady Falcons were nearly perfect when it came time to 'Jam the Joe,' posting a 14-1 home record at the Feaster Center.

"This was a historic season for the womens basketball program,' McDonald said. 'Winning the first conference championship in 24 seasons feels great. The girls worked hard and it showed on the court. I'm extremely proud of that group of girls."

Cornish finished her stellar college career leading the Falcons with 13.5 points and 6.7 rebounds per game. Gabby Gattuso averaged 12.8 points and 6.3 rebounds, while Ashley Varvek added 10.7 points per game to round out Fairmont States' leader board.

In the pool, freshman "phenom" Kate Inozemtseva set a new school record in the 50 freestyle and led the Lady Falcons to a sixth place finish at the Bluegrass Mountain Conference Championship. Her time of 23.55 also topped the meets record of 23.89 and earned her NCAA Division II 'A' cuts.

Inozemtseva qualified for the NCAA Championship in the 50 and 100 freestyles after posting her winning time in the 50 freestyle and a time of 51.71 in the 100 freestyle.

"Kate came here in January from Russia and made and immediate impact for us," Swim coach Patrick Snively said. "She set chool records, conference recotds qualify for antional champ. she was the spar that the womens needed. hope that is step point to climb next year.

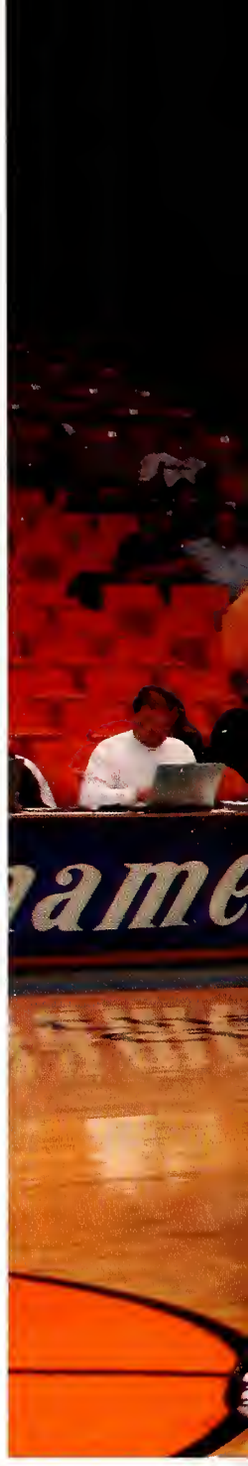
Fairmont's men's team finished 10th in the BMCC behind a sixth place finish in the 100 backstroke by Ivan Madoley and strong finished by Matt Chapman in the 100 and 100 backstroke.

On the diamond, Fairmont State first year baseball coach George Yanchak and his Fighting Falcons struggled a bit through the 07-08 season, but finished on a high note. FSU went on a late season tear, winning five of their final seven games, but at 16-33 the Falcons found themselve toward the middle of the pack in the WVIAC.

"This record does not show this young teams true colors," Yanchak said. "We played a very tought schedule at the beginning of the season and we came up on the short end, but we were really in every game. We were pretty young all around, especially pitching, maybe to young to get over the hump.

"They learned a lot from the season for next year. I'm really looking forward to it and I know they are as well."

Andy Leach and Zack Solly each batted .371 to led the Fighting Falcons offensive attack. Solly tied Nick Demus for a team high in home runs with seven, and posted the teams top slugging percentage at .594 percent. Zac Campbell posted a 1.84 ERA and an 8-3 record to spearhead the Falcons pitching staff. The right handed senior hurler struck out 68 batters through 78.1 innings of work to help lead the young pitching staff.



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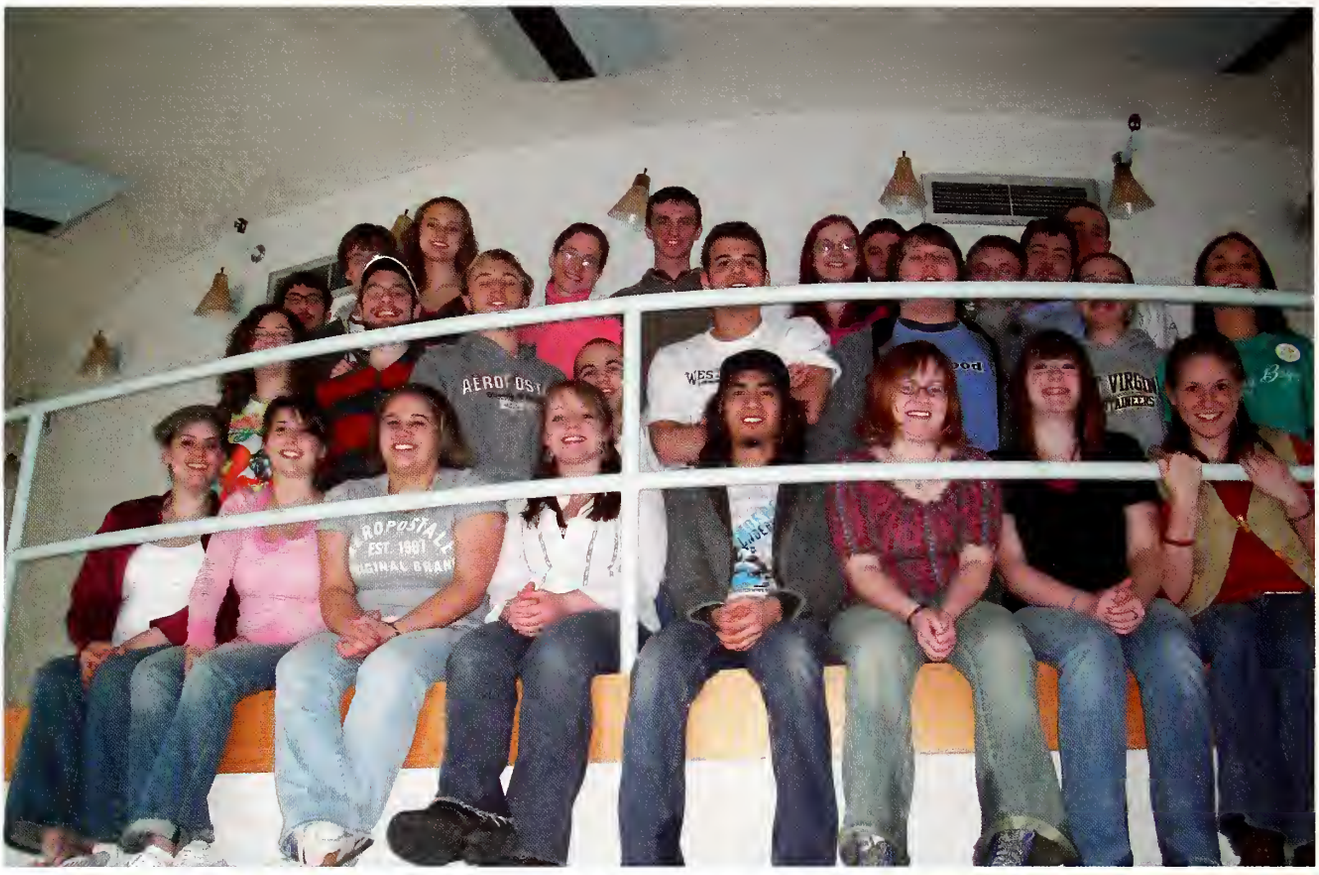

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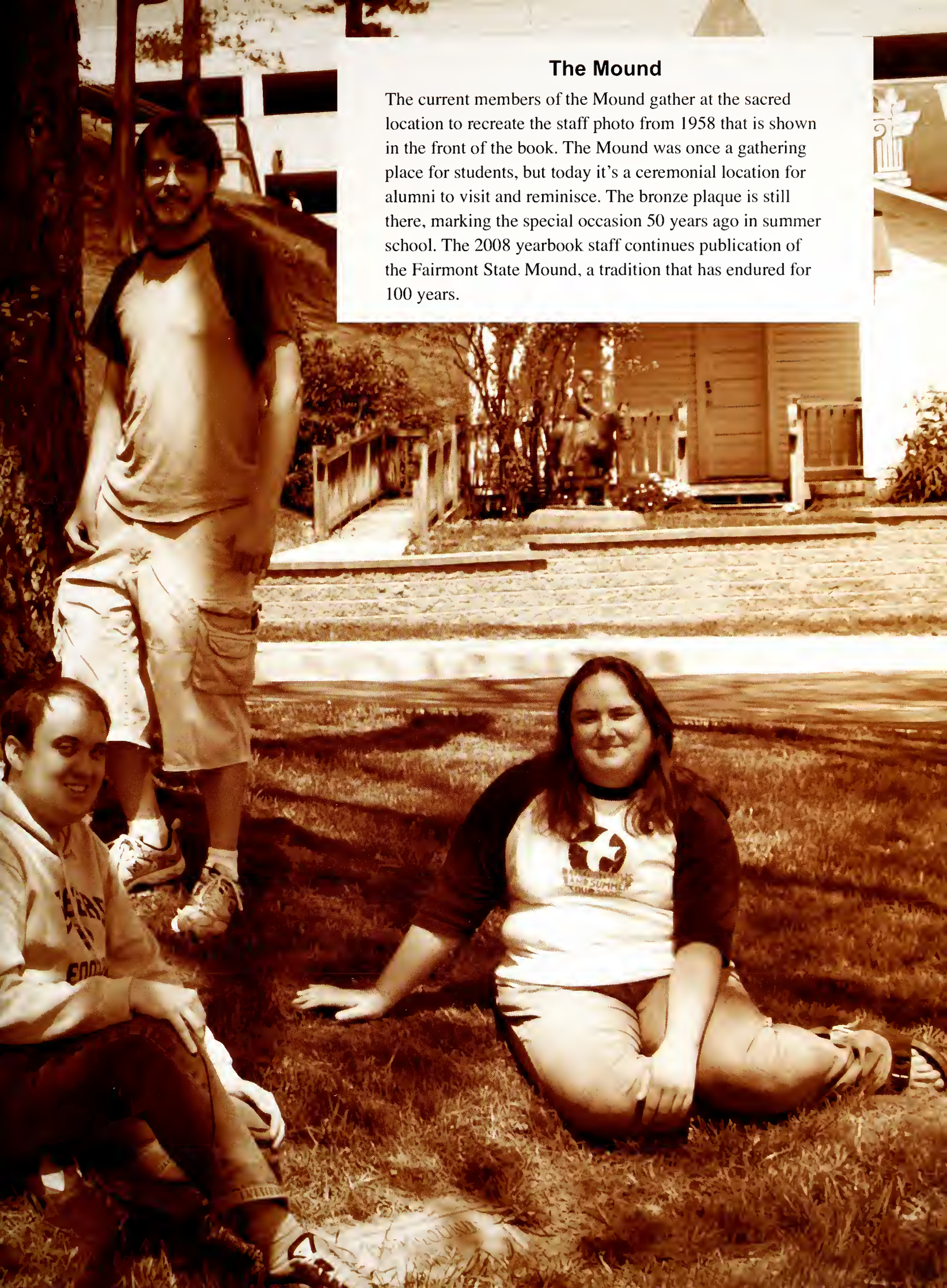

The Mound

The current members of the Mound gather at the sacred location to recreate the staff photo from 1958 that is shown in the front of the book. The Mound was once a gathering place for students, but today it's a ceremonial location for alumni to visit and reminisce. The bronze plaque is still there, marking the special occasion 50 years ago in summer school. The 2008 yearbook staff continues publication of the Fairmont State Mound, a tradition that has endured for 100 years.